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OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC # 247-2007

LETTER TO COMMISSION CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

TO: Mayor David Dermer and Members of the City Commission

FROM: City Manager Jorge M. Gonzalez

DATE: November 5, 2007

SUBJECT: Lincoln Road Tree Well Pilot Project & Up-Lighting Replacement Project

Please be advised that the Lincoln Road Tree Well Pilot Project approved by the City Commission in January with a \$252,733 budget will be commencing this week. In conjunction with the tree well replacement, a replacement for the tree well up lights will also be undertaken at a cost of \$225,000.

The tree well project will involve the placement of a decorative aggregate material in the tree wells. The material is strong enough to walk on and is ADA compatible. The aggregate material is porous, so tree health is not impacted. An innovative edge grate has been designed by the Park Department in cooperation with a foundry that allows the tree to be fertilized properly with the aggregate in place. The up light replacement is being done at the same time so as to complete all work in the tree well at one time. Our project is being monitored by many other entities who we believe will copy our design.

The project area is on Lincoln Road from the 400 block west to the 1000 block. The estimated time frame from start to finish is 240 days, with the upgrades to begin on the 1000 block and continuing to the East block by block. Work is scheduled to commence on November 5, 2007 with completion of the 1000 block expected on or before December 8, 2007. There will be a suspension of work during the holiday season and resumption of the beautification work after the New Year until the project is completed.

The Parks and Recreation Department's Greenspace Management Division is coordinating closely with the Lincoln Road Mall Merchants Association, Public Works Department's Property Management Division and all other participating departments, to avoid adversely affecting the pedestrian traffic flow, holiday lighting displays or the sidewalk cafes along Lincoln Road.

The Greenspace Management Division's Landscape Projects Coordinator, Rhonda Gracie, is providing the construction oversight. Neighborhood Services coordinator, Lynn Bernstein, will continue to act as liaison to the Lincoln Road Merchants Association for project related issues.

This project is expected to significantly improve the cleanliness of Lincoln Road and the City's ability to maintain the area at the desired service standard.

If you have any questions or concerns please let me know.

JMG/RCM/KS/JO/rg

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